OTHER BOOKS SET FORTH ANNO 1600

A CLOWN'S BOOK

Armin the clown hath written a book called *Quips Questions,* in this last restraint having little else to do Hereia upon, a word or question maketh he a rhyme extemporal and concludeth with a quip, as of—

HE PLAYS THE FOOL

True it is, he plays the fool indeed ,
But in the play, he plays it as he must
Yet when the play is ended, then his speed
Is better than the pleasure of thy trust
For he shall have what thou that time has spent,
Playing the fool, thy folly to content

He plays the wise man then, and not the fool
That wisely for his living can do so
So doth the carpenter with his sharp tool.
Cut his own finger oft, yet lives by it too
He is a fool to cut his limb, say I,
But not so with his tool to live thereby

Then 'tis his case that makes him seem a fool,
It is indeed, for it is antic made
Thus men wax wise when they do go to school,
Then for our sport we thank the tailor's trade.
And him within the case the most of all,
That seems wise-foolish, who a fool you call

Meet him abroad, and he is wise methinks,
In courtesy, behaviour, talk or going
Of garment Eke when he with any drinks,
Then, are men wise their money so bestowing
To learn by him one time a fool to seem,
And twenty times for once, in good esteem

Say I should meet him and not know his name,

What should I say, * Yonder goes such a
fool ? *